



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION
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MINUTES
RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION
September 11, 2013

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Michael Abbott, AIA
Ms. Morgan Devlin
Mr. Mohamad Farzan, AIA
Dr. Omur Harmansah
Mr. Michael Hebert, NR Review Board
Mr. Karst Hoogeboom, Chairman
Dr. Patrick Malone
Dr. E. Pierre Morenon
Dr. Ronald Onorato
Mr. Edward F. Sanderson, State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Clark Schoettle

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Joanna Doherty, Senior Architectural Historian
Dr. Richard Greenwood, Deputy Director
Dr. Timothy Ives, Principal Archaeologist
Ms. Mercedes Monteiro, National Register Assistant - Heritage Aide
Ms. Sarah Zurier, Senior Special Projects Coordinator

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Janet Coit, Director DEM
John P. Leyden, State Building Commissioner
Mr. Jared L. Rhodes, Chief of Statewide Planning representing Kevin Flynn, Asso. Dir
Mr. Pieter N. Roos
Mr. Marcel Valois, Executive Director EDC

INVITED GUEST

Mr. Jonathan Stevens, Office of Governor Chafee

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Representing the Preservation Society of Newport County:
Ms. Trudy Coxe, Executive Director
Mr. Terry Dickinson
Mr. William Landry, Esq.
Mr. John Rodman, PSNC
Ms. Kaity Ryan

Representing the Barrington Preservation Society:

Mr. Van Edwards

Mr. Nathaniel Taylor

Ms. Elizabeth Warren

Mr. Jason Lawrence, 153 George Street, Barrington

II. AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M., Karst Hooageboom, Chairman, presiding.

2. Minutes of July 10, 2013

Mr. Sanderson reported that he distributed Draft Minutes in July to Commissioners and interested parties and received no corrections. On a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Mr. Abbott, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the Minutes of July 10, 2013.

3. Executive Director's Report

a) The Division of Taxation has established a "Queue" for allocating \$34.5 million in 2013 Historic Preservation Tax Credits among the projects that applied for funding. Thirty-two projects received tax credit allocations and sixteen projects did not receive allocations. The next step is for projects to apply to RIHPHC for certification of historical significance and certification of the proposed historic rehabilitation work.

b) On August 27, 2013, the Newport Historic District Commission voted 4 to 3 to not approve The Breakers Welcome Center project. The HDC written decision is not available at this time.

c) Dr. Greenwood distributed recommended 2014 Certified Local Government Grant Priorities. Each year RIHPHC awards federal grants to CLG communities and the 2014 Priorities are very similar to the 2013 Priorities. Following discussion, on a motion by Mr. Abbott, seconded by Dr. Malone, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the 2014 Certified Local Government Grant Priorities.

d) The annual State Heritage Festival will take place on Saturday September 14 from Noon to dusk at Roger Williams National Memorial in Providence. RIHPHC Heritage Aide

Mercedes Monteiro is the coordinator for the festival.

4. National Register of Historic Places

Final Approval: Allen – West House, 153 George Street, Barrington

Ms. Doherty presented information about the property. The Allen-West House dates to ca. 1763, when the main block of the present house was constructed. Approximately 27 feet wide and 27 feet deep and one-and-one-half-stories tall, it is a square-plan building; on the first floor, there are three differently-sized rooms arranged around an off-center chimney stack, and a small, unheated room behind the staircase to the second floor. The Allen-West House is significant at the local level in the areas of community planning and development and agriculture. The house is a rare survivor of the agricultural settlement of Nockum Hill, which had its origins in the early colonial period. Characterized by level arable lands bounded by low-lying marshes and tidal flats, the Nockum Hill area was one of the earliest nodes of European settlement in Barrington, then part of the colonial town of Swansea (1667), and, unlike the rest of the town, it remained agricultural in character through the town's suburbanization in the late 19th and 20th centuries. The Allen-West House is also significant at the local level in the area of architecture, as a work of colonial architecture in the Georgian style. One of approximately fifteen houses that survive from the 18th century in Barrington, it is notable as an early example of a square-plan house, an important but little-recognized regional house type that grew out of Rhode Island's 17th-century vernacular tradition.

Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Mr. Farzan, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the nomination.

5. Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Grants

Mr. Sanderson reported on the federal Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Grants. Rhode Island has been allocated \$3.2 million in funding. Given the current vacancy in the RIHPHC staff of Grants Coordinator, he recommended that the Commission consider funding a temporary part-time grants assistant, possibly through a cooperative agreement with the nonprofit Preserve Rhode Island. Mr. Sanderson noted that RIHPHC submitted a grant application to the National Park Service on June 25, 2013, and RIHPHC staff and NPS are continuing to discuss details of the program.

Ms. Zurier reported on preliminary applications for federal Hurricane Sandy grants, including photographs of the properties and descriptions of the damage incurred. She also distributed written final application guidelines for disaster relief construction projects for the Commission's review.

Dr. Ives reported on proposed scopes of work for two projects to assess Hurricane Sandy-related damage to archaeological sites on the southern Rhode Island shore and on Block Island. He recommended that RIHPHC issue requests for proposals in order to select the best qualified consultants to undertake these surveys. He estimated the cost of each survey (including Phase 1 and Phase 2 investigations) would be \$500,000.

Mr. Sanderson stated that final action by the Commission to approve Hurricane Sandy Grant expenditures is expected at the November 13, 2013 Commission meeting.

Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Dr. Malone, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to authorize RIHPHC staff to continue to develop the Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Grants program, including entering into a cooperative agreement with Preserve Rhode Island to obtain the services of a temporary grants assistant, distributing final grant applications to eligible projects that have submitted preliminary applications, and issuing archaeological requests for proposals.

6. Other business

There was no other business.

7. Next regular meeting date: Wednesday October 9, 2013 at 9:30 AM.

8. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Minutes recorded by,



Edward F. Sanderson, Executive Director